

#200  
10/4/01  
E.D.S.

PATENT  
Atty. Docket No. MICRU:49155

JC997 U.S. PTO  
09/865021  
05/23/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

DAVID A. FERRERA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/219,572

Filed: December 22, 1998

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS FIBER  
OPTIC SHAFT

Date: January 22, 1999

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON D.C. 20231 on January 22, 1999.

James W. Paul, Reg. No. 29,967  
Attorney for Applicant

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) and § 1.98(d), enclosed is Form PTO-FB-A820, listing art which may be material to patentability of the invention, together with copies of 15 references listed therein. The remaining 24 prior art references were previously submitted in the corresponding application, U.S. Serial No. 08/996,053, filed December 22, 1997.

Applicants believe that this Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3) and, therefore, no fee is due. However, if a fee is in fact due for this Information Disclosure Statement,

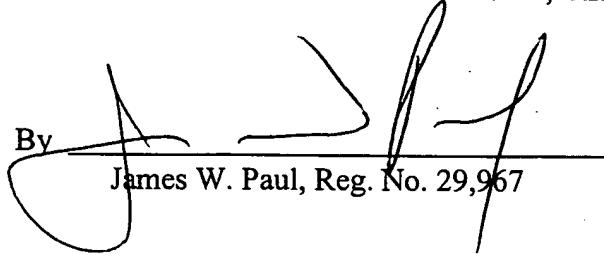
Application No. 09/219,572

PATENT

the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2425. A **duplicate copy** of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By   
James W. Paul, Reg. No. 29,967

JWP:rlm

Enc: Information Disclosure Statement  
Form PTO-FB-A820 (with 15 art references)

10877 Wilshire Boulevard  
10th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90024  
Tel. No. (310) 824-5555  
FAX No. (310) 824-9696

127386.1

# 2-5  
5/23/01

PATENT  
Atty. Docket No. MICRU-49155

JC997 U.S. PTO  
09/865021  
05/23/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

DAVID A. FERRERA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/219,572

Filed: December 22, 1998

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS FIBER  
OPTIC SHAFT

Date: September 5, 2000

Examiner: J. Kang

Group Art Unit 2874

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON D.C. 20231  
on September 5, 2000.

  
David G. Parkhurst, Reg. No. 29,422  
Attorney for Applicant

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

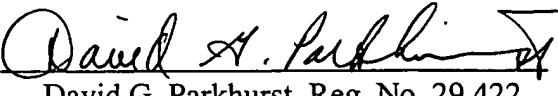
The information listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A has come to the attention of the applicants and is submitted to the Office under 35 U.S.C. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Copies of the references listed are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider and cite the enclosed references as well as the earlier identified references in the prior Information Disclosure Statements.

Our check in the amount of \$240.00 is enclosed for the government filing fee. Please charge any deficiency in the fee or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 06-2425. A duplicate of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By   
David G. Parkhurst, Reg. No. 29,422

DGP:dr

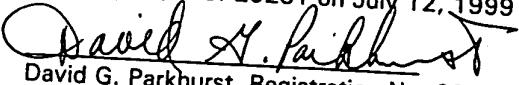
Enc.: Form PTO-SB-08A  
10 Cited Prior Art References

Howard Hughes Center  
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90045  
Tel. No. (310) 824-5555  
FAX No. (310) 824-9696

PATENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 12, 1999

  
David G. Parkhurst, Registration No. 29,422

JC997 U.S. PTO  
09/065021  
05/23/01  


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

DAVID A. FERRERA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/219,572

Filed: December 22, 1998

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS FIBER  
OPTIC SHAFT

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July 12, 1999  
Los Angeles, California 90024

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), Form PTO-FB-A820 and copies of the references listed therein are enclosed in order to inform the Examiner of known prior art which may be material to patentability of the invention. Also enclosed is a copy of the International Search Report dated June 10, 1999 in which these references were first brought to Applicant's attention.

SUP.IDS#143953.1

Serial No. 09/219,572

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with this paper. However, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2425. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Supplemental Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is believed that these references will be helpful during examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

  
David G. Parkhurst  
Registration No. 29,422  
Attorney for Applicant

JWP/DGP:sn

Enc:

10877 Wilshire Boulevard  
Tenth Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90024  
Tel. No.: (310) 824-5555  
Fax No.: (310) 824-9696

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → **+**

PTO/SB/21 (6-98)

Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

86

Application Number	09/219,572
Filing Date	December 22, 1998
First Named Inventor	David A. Ferrera
Group Art Unit	2874
Examiner Name	J. Kang
Attorney Docket Number	MICRU-49155

JC997 U.S. PTO  
09/865021



05/23/01

### ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> - Form PTO-SB-08A and copies of the 10 cited references
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> - Return Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

Remarks



24201

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP David G. Parkhurst, Reg. No. 29,422
Signature	
Date	September 5, 2000

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: Sept. 5, 2000

Typed or printed name **David G. Parkhurst**

Signature

Date September 5, 2000

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be send to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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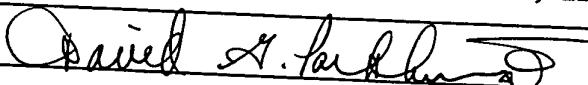
37

Application Number	09/219,572
Filing Date	DECEMBER 22, 1998
First Named Inventor	DAVID A. FERRERA
Group Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	MICRU:49155

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

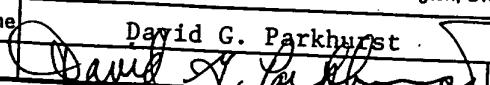
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUPPLEMENTAL Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	David G. Parkhurst, Esq., For FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP
Signature	
Date	July 12, 1999

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: **07/12/1999**

Typed or printed name	David G. Parkhurst
Signature	
Date	July 12, 1999

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

# FEE TRANSMITTAL

## for FY 2000

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.  
Small Entity payments **must** be supported by a small entity statement,  
otherwise large entity fees must be paid. See Forms PTO/SB/09-12.  
See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.27 and 1.28.

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** **(\$)** 240.00

Complaint if Known	
Application Number	09/219,572
Filing Date	December 22, 1998
First Named Inventor	David A. Ferrera
Examiner Name	J. Kang
Group / Art Unit	2874
Attorney Docket No.	MICRU-49155

09/065021  
05/23/01

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)		FEE CALCULATION (continued)																																																																																																																									
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:</p> <p>Deposit Account Number <b>06-2425</b></p> <p>Deposit Account Name <b>FULWIDER PATTON, ET AL.</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17</p>		<p>3. ADDITIONAL FEES</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Large Entity Fee Code (\$)</th> <th>Small Entity Fee Code (\$)</th> <th>Fee Description</th> <th>Fee Paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>105</td><td>130</td><td>205</td><td>65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath</td></tr> <tr><td>127</td><td>50</td><td>227</td><td>25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.</td></tr> <tr><td>139</td><td>130</td><td>139</td><td>130 Non-English specification</td></tr> <tr><td>147</td><td>2,520</td><td>147</td><td>2,520 For filing a request for reexamination</td></tr> <tr><td>112</td><td>920*</td><td>112</td><td>920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action</td></tr> <tr><td>113</td><td>1,840*</td><td>113</td><td>1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action</td></tr> <tr><td>115</td><td>110</td><td>215</td><td>55 Extension for reply within first month</td></tr> <tr><td>116</td><td>380</td><td>216</td><td>190 Extension for reply within second month</td></tr> <tr><td>117</td><td>870</td><td>217</td><td>435 Extension for reply within third month</td></tr> <tr><td>118</td><td>1,360</td><td>218</td><td>680 Extension for reply within fourth month</td></tr> <tr><td>128</td><td>1,850</td><td>228</td><td>925 Extension for reply within fifth month</td></tr> <tr><td>119</td><td>300</td><td>219</td><td>150 Notice of Appeal</td></tr> <tr><td>120</td><td>300</td><td>220</td><td>150 Filing a brief in support of an appeal</td></tr> <tr><td>121</td><td>260</td><td>221</td><td>130 Request for oral hearing</td></tr> <tr><td>138</td><td>1,510</td><td>138</td><td>1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding</td></tr> <tr><td>140</td><td>110</td><td>240</td><td>55 Petition to revive - unavoidable</td></tr> <tr><td>141</td><td>1,210</td><td>241</td><td>605 Petition to revive - unintentional</td></tr> <tr><td>142</td><td>1,210</td><td>242</td><td>605 Utility issue fee (or reissue)</td></tr> <tr><td>143</td><td>430</td><td>243</td><td>215 Design issue fee</td></tr> <tr><td>144</td><td>580</td><td>244</td><td>290 Plant issue fee</td></tr> <tr><td>122</td><td>130</td><td>122</td><td>130 Petitions to the Commissioner</td></tr> <tr><td>123</td><td>50</td><td>123</td><td>50 Petitions related to provisional applications</td></tr> <tr><td>126</td><td>240</td><td>126</td><td>240 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt</td></tr> <tr><td>581</td><td>40</td><td>581</td><td>40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)</td></tr> <tr><td>146</td><td>690</td><td>246</td><td>345 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))</td></tr> <tr><td>149</td><td>690</td><td>249</td><td>345 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="4">Other fee (specify) _____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="4">Other fee (specify) _____</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">SUBTOTAL (1) <b>(\$)</b></td> <td colspan="2">SUBTOTAL (3) <b>(\$)</b> 240.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid	105	130	205	65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	127	50	227	25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.	139	130	139	130 Non-English specification	147	2,520	147	2,520 For filing a request for reexamination	112	920*	112	920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	113	1,840*	113	1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	115	110	215	55 Extension for reply within first month	116	380	216	190 Extension for reply within second month	117	870	217	435 Extension for reply within third month	118	1,360	218	680 Extension for reply within fourth month	128	1,850	228	925 Extension for reply within fifth month	119	300	219	150 Notice of Appeal	120	300	220	150 Filing a brief in support of an appeal	121	260	221	130 Request for oral hearing	138	1,510	138	1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding	140	110	240	55 Petition to revive - unavoidable	141	1,210	241	605 Petition to revive - unintentional	142	1,210	242	605 Utility issue fee (or reissue)	143	430	243	215 Design issue fee	144	580	244	290 Plant issue fee	122	130	122	130 Petitions to the Commissioner	123	50	123	50 Petitions related to provisional applications	126	240	126	240 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	581	40	581	40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	146	690	246	345 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	149	690	249	345 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	Other fee (specify) _____				Other fee (specify) _____				SUBTOTAL (1) <b>(\$)</b>		SUBTOTAL (3) <b>(\$)</b> 240.00	
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107	480	207	240 Plant filing fee																																																																																																																								
108	690	208	345 Reissue filing fee																																																																																																																								
114	150	214	75 Provisional filing fee																																																																																																																								
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Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description																																																																																																																									
103	18	203 9 Claims in excess of 20																																																																																																																									
102	78	202 39 Independent claims in excess of 3																																																																																																																									
104	260	204 130 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid																																																																																																																									
109	78	209 39 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent																																																																																																																									
110	18	210 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent																																																																																																																									

SUBMITTED BY		Complete (if applicable)	
Name (Print/Type)	David G. Parkhurst	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,422
Signature	<i>David G. Parkhurst</i>	Telephone	310/824-5555
		Date	September 5, 2000

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